

# Union Calendar No. 432

110TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 5982

[Report No. 110-688]

To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security, for purposes of transportation security, to conduct a study on how airports can transition to uniform, standards-based, and interoperable biometric identifier systems for airport workers with unescorted access to secure or sterile areas of an airport, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 7, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi (for himself and Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

JUNE 5, 2008

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on May 7, 2008]

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security, for purposes of transportation security, to conduct a study on how airports can transition to uniform, standards-based, and interoperable biometric identifier systems for airport workers with unescorted access to secure or sterile areas of an airport, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       *This Act may be cited as the “Biometric Enhancement*  
5       *for Airport-Risk Reduction Act of 2008”.*

6       **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7       *In this Act, the following definitions apply:*

8               (1) *BIOMETRIC IDENTIFIER SYSTEM.*—*The term*  
9       *“biometric identifier system” means a system that*  
10       *uses biometric identifier information to match indi-*  
11       *viduals and confirm identity for transportation secu-*  
12       *rity and other purposes.*

13              (2) *SECRETARY.*—*The term “Secretary” means*  
14       *the Secretary of Homeland Security acting through*  
15       *the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Trans-*  
16       *portation Security Administration).*

17       **SEC. 3. BIOMETRIC IDENTIFIER SYSTEMS.**

18       (a) *STUDY.*—

19              (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary, in consultation*  
20       *with the working group of industry stakeholders to be*  
21       *established under subsection (c), shall conduct a study*  
22       *on how airports can transition to uniform, standards-*  
23       *based, and interoperable biometric identifier systems*  
24       *for airport workers with unescorted access to secure or*  
25       *sterile areas of an airport.*

1           (2) *PURPOSE.*—*The purpose of the study shall be*  
2           *to enhance transportation security against a potential*  
3           *act of terrorism by an airport worker who is allowed*  
4           *unescorted access to secure or sterile areas of an air-*  
5           *port.*

6           (3) *RISK-BASED ANALYSIS.*—*In conducting the*  
7           *study, the Secretary shall conduct a risk-based anal-*  
8           *ysis of selected Category X and I airports and other*  
9           *airports, as the Secretary determines appropriate, to*  
10          *identify where the implementation of biometric iden-*  
11          *tifier systems could benefit airports.*

12          (4) *CONSIDERATIONS.*—*In conducting the study,*  
13          *the Secretary shall consider the following:*

14                (A) *PARALLEL SYSTEMS.*—*Existing parallel*  
15                *biometric security systems applicable to workers*  
16                *with unescorted access to critical infrastructure,*  
17                *including—*

18                       (i) *transportation security cards issued*  
19                       *under section 70105 of title 46, United*  
20                       *States Code;*

21                       (ii) *armed law enforcement travel cre-*  
22                       *dentials issued under section 44903(h)(6) of*  
23                       *title 49, United States Code; and*

1                   (iii) other credential programs used by  
2                   the Federal Government, as the Secretary  
3                   considers appropriate.

4                   (B) *EFFORTS BY TRANSPORTATION SECUR-*  
5                   *RITY ADMINISTRATION.*—Any biometric pro-  
6                   grams or proposals developed by the Assistant  
7                   Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation  
8                   Security Administration).

9                   (C) *INFRASTRUCTURE AND TECHNICAL RE-*  
10                  *QUIREMENTS.*—The architecture, modules, inter-  
11                  faces, and transmission of data needed to address  
12                  risks associated with securing airports by pro-  
13                  viding interoperable biometric security measures  
14                  and credentials for airport workers with unes-  
15                  corted access to secure and sterile areas of an  
16                  airport.

17                  (D) *EXISTING AIRPORT SYSTEMS.*—Biomet-  
18                  ric infrastructure and systems in use in secure  
19                  and sterile areas of airports.

20                  (E) *INCENTIVES.*—Possible incentives for  
21                  airports that voluntarily seek to implement uni-  
22                  form, standards-based, and interoperable biomet-  
23                  ric identifier systems.

24                  (F) *ASSOCIATED COSTS.*—The costs of im-  
25                  plementing uniform, standards-based, and inter-

operable biometric identifier systems at airports,  
including—

(i) the costs to airport operators, airport workers, air carriers, and other aviation industry stakeholders; and

(ii) the costs associated with ongoing operations and maintenance and modifications and enhancements needed to support changes in physical and electronic infrastructure.

(G) *GAO RECOMMENDATIONS.*—Any recommendations or findings developed by the Government Accountability Office relating to implementing biometric security for airport workers with unescorted access to secure and sterile areas of airports.

(H) *INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.*—Recommendations, guidance, and information from other sources, including government entities, organizations representing airport workers, and private individuals and organizations.

(5) *REPORT.*—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the

1 *House of Representatives and the Committee on Com-*  
2 *merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a*  
3 *report on the results of the study conducted under this*  
4 *subsection.*

5 *(b) BEST PRACTICES.—*

6 *(1) IDENTIFICATION OF BEST PRACTICES.—The*  
7 *Secretary, in consultation with the working group of*  
8 *aviation industry stakeholders to be established under*  
9 *subsection (c), shall identify best practices for the ad-*  
10 *ministration of biometric credentials at airports, in-*  
11 *cluding best practices for each of the following proc-*  
12 *esses:*

13 *(A) Registration and enrollment.*

14 *(B) Eligibility vetting and risk assessment.*

15 *(C) Issuance.*

16 *(D) Verification and use.*

17 *(E) Expiration and revocation.*

18 *(F) Development of a cost structure for ac-*  
19 *quisition of biometric credentials.*

20 *(G) Development of redress processes for*  
21 *workers.*

22 *(2) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the*  
23 *date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall—*

24 *(A) submit to the Committee on Homeland*  
25 *Security of the House of Representatives and the*

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report that outlines the best practices identified under paragraph (1); and

(B) make the report available to airport operators.

(c) AVIATION AND AIRPORT SECURITY WORKING GROUP.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall convene a working group to assist the Secretary with issues pertaining to implementing and carrying out this section.

(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The Secretary shall ensure that the membership of the working group includes aviation industry stakeholders and specifically includes individuals selected from among—

(A) the membership of the Transportation Security Administration's Aviation Security Advisory Committee;

(B) individuals and organizations representing airports;

(C) individuals and organizations representing airport workers, including those airport workers with unescorted access to secure and sterile areas of airports;

1                   (D) individuals and organizations rep-  
2                   resenting the biometric technology sector; and

3                   (E) any other individuals and organiza-  
4                   tions that the Secretary considers appropriate.

5                   (3) NONAPPLICABILITY OF FACA.—The Federal  
6                   Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not  
7                   apply to working group established under this sub-  
8                   section.

9                   (4) SUNSET.—The working group established  
10                  under this subsection shall cease operations 30 days  
11                  after the date of submission of the report under sub-  
12                  section (a)(5) or 30 days after the date of submission  
13                  of the report under subsection (b)(2), whichever is  
14                  later.





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2<sup>D</sup> Session

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